



**Arizona
Department of
Education**

Language Arts Standards Chart for AIMS

Standard 2: Writing

**Essentials Level (Grade 8)
Reflecting the Blueprint of 07.08.96**

LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS CHART FOR AIMS - ESSENTIALS LEVEL (GRADE 8)

STANDARD 2: WRITING

STANDARD 2: WRITING	
Students effectively use written language for a variety of purposes and with a variety of audiences. <i>Students know and are able to do all the Readiness, Foundations and Essentials (Grade 5) PO's, and the following</i>	
CONCEPT/Performance Objective	Points*
W-E1. Use correct spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and usage, along with varied sentence structure and paragraph organization, to complete effectively a variety of writing tasks.	5 - 8
PO 1. Spell correctly	
PO 2. Punctuate correctly (e.g., sentence endings, commas in a series, commas in compound sentences, abbreviations, quotation marks, colon in business letter greeting, apostrophes)	
PO 3. Apply rules of capitalization (e.g., sentence beginnings, titles, abbreviations, proper nouns, direct quotations)	
PO 4. Apply standard grammar and usage (e.g., subject-verb agreement; simple, compound and complex sentences; appropriate verb tense; plurals; prepositions)	
PO 5. Organize paragraphs with a variety of sentence structures (e.g., simple, compound, complex)	
W-E2. Write a personal experience narrative or creative story that includes a plot and shows the reader what happens through well-developed characters, setting, dialog, and themes and uses figurative language, descriptive words and phrases	4 - 5
PO 1 Write a personal experience narrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop a story line in a sequence that is clear - use figurative language or descriptive words and phrases 	
OR	
PO 2. Write a story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop a story line in a sequence that is clear - develop the characters - describe the setting - use dialog when appropriate - use simile, metaphor or descriptive words and phrases 	

NOTE: Language Arts assesses points by concept, not by performance objective.

*All concepts, except those denoted as "NOT TESTED," will be assessed on every AIMS test form. However, the number of points per concept and the total number of total points possible will vary slightly from form to form.

LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS CHART FOR AIMS - ESSENTIALS LEVEL (GRADE 8)

STANDARD 2, continued	
CONCEPT/Performance Objective	Points*
W-E3. Write a summary that presents information clearly and accurately, contains most significant details and preserves the position of the author	4 - 8
PO 1 Use own words except for material quoted	
PO 2. Preserve the author's perspective and voice	
PO 3. Contain main ideas of event/article/story plus the most significant details	
PO 4. Present clearly written and organized information	
W-E4. Write an expository essay that contains effective introductory and summary statements and fully develops the ideas with details, facts, examples and descriptions	16 - 18
PO 1 Write an expository essay that begins by stating the thesis (purpose) with an effective introductory statement or paragraph; provides smooth transitions; and ends with either a paragraph concluding the development of the thesis, a summary or a clincher statement	
PO 2. Use own words (except for quoted material) to develop ideas accurately and clearly with supporting details, facts, examples or descriptions	
PO 3. Use personal interpretation, analysis, evaluation or reflection to evidence understanding of subject	
W-E5. Write a report that conveys a point of view and develops a topic with appropriate facts, details, examples and descriptions from a variety of cited sources	5 - 6
PO 1. Write a report in own words (except for material quoted) that states, develops and provides a concluding statement for a point of view (perspective) about a topic that is narrow enough to be adequately covered	
PO 2. Organize a report with a clear beginning, middle and end including use of smooth transitions	
PO 3. Provide support through facts, details, examples or descriptions that are appropriate, directly related to the topic and from a variety of cited sources	
PO 4. Use personal interpretation, analysis, evaluation or reflection to evidence understanding of subject	
W-E6. Write formal communications, such as personal or business letters, messages, directions and applications, in an appropriate format and for a specific audience and purpose	4 - 5
PO 1. Write a formal communication in an appropriate format for a specific audience and purpose	
PO 2. Organize ideas in a meaningful sequence using smooth transitions	
PO 3. Express ideas that are clear and directly related to the topic	

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LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS CHART FOR AIMS - ESSENTIALS LEVEL (GRADE 8)

STANDARD 2, continued	
CONCEPT/Performance Objective	Points*
W-E7. Write a response to a literary selection by supporting their ideas with references to the text, other works or experiences	NOT TESTED
PO 1. State clearly a position that is interpretive, analytic, evaluative or reflective	
PO 2. Support inferences and conclusions with examples from the text, personal experience, references to other works or reference to non-print media	
PO 3. Relate own ideas to supporting details in a clear and logical manner	
PO 4. Provide support adequate to the literary selection (e.g., short poem vs. novel)	
W-E8. Demonstrate research skills using reference materials such as a dictionary, encyclopedia and thesaurus to complete effectively a variety of writing tasks	5 - 6
PO 1. Implement a research strategy that includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - selecting best source for specific research purpose - taking notes that summarize and paraphrase information relevant to the topic - incorporating notes into a finished product 	

TOTAL NUMBER OF AIMS ESSENTIALS LEVEL (8th GRADE) WRITING POINTS	49 - 51
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